

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A communication device operable to configure
2 settings related to a function supported by the communication
3 device, said communication device comprising:

4 an electronic storage medium storing instructions
5 to enable the communication device to:

6 transmit an indication of needed
7 configuration information to a management server; and
8 receive a response from said management
9 server, said response including said needed
10 configuration information required to configure said
11 communication device to allow for use of said function.

1 2. The communication device of claim 1, wherein said
2 electronic storage medium transmits said indication in
3 response to a request received from said management server
4 for said indication of said configuration information needed
5 to allow operation of said function.

1 4. The communication device of claim 1, wherein the
2 indication of the needed configuration information includes
3 an identification of a plurality of parameters and an
4 indication of a required format for the plurality of
5 parameters.

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1 6. The communication device of claim 1, wherein the
2 function comprises at least one of a Wireless Application
3 Protocol (WAP) functionality and an electronic mail
4 functionality.

1 7. The communication device of claim 1, wherein the
2 communication device transmits the indication of the needed
3 configuration information and receives the response from the
4 management server using Extensible Mark-up Language (XML).

1 8. The communication device of claim 1, wherein the
2 communication device comprises a wireless device.

1 9. The communication device of claim 1, wherein said
2 indication includes an identification of one of the type and
3 manufacturer of the communication device.

1 10. The communication device of claim 1, wherein said
2 communication device transmits said indication in response
3 to one of a power up of the communication device and a user
4 menu selection.

1 11. The communication device of claim 1 further
2 comprising a control unit for reading the instructions from
3 the electronic storage medium and executing the instructions.

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1 12. A method for configuring settings related to a
2 function of a communication device, said method comprising
3 the steps of:

4 transmitting an identification of configuration
5 information needed to allow operation of said function to a
6 management server; and

7 receiving a response from said management server
8 including said configuration information required to
9 configure said communication device to allow for use of said
10 function.

1 13. The method of claim 12, wherein said transmitting
2 step is in response to a request received from said
3 management server for said identification of configuration
4 information needed to allow operation of said function.

1 14. The method of claim 12, wherein the identification
2 of the needed configuration information includes an
3 identification of a plurality of parameters and an indication
4 of a format for said plurality of parameters.

1 15. The method of claim 12, wherein the identification
2 of the needed configuration information includes an
3 identification of said function and one of a type and
4 manufacturer of the communication device.

1 16. The method of claim 12, wherein the identification
2 of the needed configuration information is transmitted in
3 response to one or a power up of the communication device,
4 and a user menu selection on the communication device, and
5 an attempt to use said function.

1 17. A management system capable of learning at least
2 one requirement of a previously unknown function of a
3 communication device, said management system comprising:
4 a management server operable to:
5 store a list of communication devices and
6 configuration information pertaining to communication
7 devices;
8 receive, from said communication device, an
9 indication of configuration information pertaining to
10 said previously unknown function;
11 adapt to enable use of said previously
12 unknown function in response to the received indication
13 of said configuration information; and
14 update said list of communication devices and
15 configuration information to include said previously
16 unknown function in response to the received indication
17 of said configuration information.

1 18. The management system of claim 17, wherein said
2 management server is further operable to:

3 receive a request for configuration data for said
4 previously unknown function from a particular communication
5 device; and

6 transmit a request to said communication device for
7 said indication of configuration information related to said
8 previously unknown function, wherein said indication of said
9 configuration information is received in response to said
10 request.

1 19. The management system of claim 18, wherein said
2 communication device transmits said indication of said
3 configuration information to said management server in
4 response to said request.

1 20. The management system of claim 17, wherein said
2 indication of configuration information comprises an address
3 of a server associated with the previously unknown function.

1 21. The management system of claim 20, wherein said
2 management server further operates to retrieve data relating
3 to the previously unknown function from the server at said
4 address.

1 22. The management system of claim 21, wherein said
2 data comprises said indication of said configuration
3 information.

1 23. The management system of claim 17, wherein the
2 management server determines a value of at least one
3 parameter identified in said indication of said configuration
4 information.

1 24. The management system of claim 23, wherein the
2 management server transmits the value of the at least one
3 parameter to the communication device.

1 25. The management system of claim 23, wherein the
2 value of the at least one parameter is transmitted in a
3 Extensible Mark-up Language (XML).

1 26. The management system of claim 25, wherein the XML
2 message is formatted in accordance with a format indicated
3 by the indication of the configuration information.

1 27. A method for enabling a management system to learn
2 at least one requirement of an unknown function, said method
3 comprising:

4 determining whether at least one of a device and
5 a function identified in a message received by the
6 management system is unknown;

7 requesting information relating to the at least one
8 of the device and the function, after determining that at
9 least one of the device and the function is unknown;

10 receiving said requested information from said
11 device;

12 determining a set of configuration parameters
13 necessary to use the at least one of the unknown function and
14 the unknown device in response to said received information;
15 and

16 sending the set of configuration parameters to said
17 device.

1 28. The method of claim 27 further comprising the step
2 of initializing at least one setting of said device according
3 to the set of configuration parameters.

1 29. The method of claim 27 further comprising the steps
2 of:

3 building a user interface, in response to the
4 received information, for entry of the set of configuration
5 parameters; and

6 receiving an entry of the determined set of
7 configuration parameters from an operator using said user
8 interface.

1 30. A control unit for configuring settings related to
2 a
3 function supported by a communication device, said control
4 unit operable to:
5 control a transceiver to transmit an indication of
6 needed configuration information to a management server; and
7 receive via said transceiver a response from said
8 management server, said response including the needed
9 configuration information required to configure the
10 communication device to allow for use of said function.